

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Investigators Check Ten Businesses and Three Sell Alcohol to Minors

Lakewood - Investigators of the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) cited three individuals for selling alcohol to a minor on Monday, November 10, 2008 during a minor decoy enforcement operation. The actions were the result of a compliance check operation in which minors under the direct supervision of investigators, attempted to purchase alcohol from ten retail licensees in the cities of Lakewood, Long Beach and Signal Hill. Three locations sold alcohol to minors.

Those who sold to the minor face a minimum fine of \$250, and/or 24 to 32 hours of community service for a first violation. In addition, ABC will take administrative action against the license of the location where alcohol was sold to a minor. That may include a fine, a suspension of the license, or the permanent revocation of the license.

ABC is conducting the compliance checks state-wide to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors.

Minor Decoy operations have been conducted by local law enforcement throughout the state since the 1980's. In 1994, the California Supreme Court ruled unanimously that use of underage decoys is a valid tool of law enforcement to ensure that liquor licensees are complying with the law.

ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Agency Secretary Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.